



Federal Land and Buildings Ownership

Updated: May 19, 2005

Percent of all land in America owned by the federal government as of 9/30/2004:
28.8%

Total acres owned by the federal government in the U.S. as of 9/30/2004: **653,299,090.2**

States with the largest percentage of federal land ownership as of 9/30/2004

Nevada: 84.5%	Idaho: 50.2%	New Mexico: 41.8%
Alaska: 69.1%	Arizona: 48.1%	Colorado: 36.6%
Utah: 57.5%	California: 45.3%	Washington: 30.3%
Oregon: 53.1%	Wyoming: 42.3%	Montana: 29.9%

By comparison, the District of Columbia, established by the Constitution as the federal city, has only **24.7%** of its total acreage owned by the federal government. **Twelve** states rank above DC in federal land ownership.

Where federal land is located, by region:

West: 54.1%	South Central: 2.4%
Alaska & Hawaii: 38.8%	South Atlantic & DC: 1.7%
North Central: 2.8%	Northeast: 0.2%

Only **2.4%** of federal land in the U.S. is used for military purposes, and **more than 5.1 million acres** of federal land are classified as “**vacant**” with no definable purpose.

Buildings

Number of buildings *owned* by the federal government in the U.S. as of 9/30/04: **411,406**

Number of square feet of office space within these owned buildings (9/30/04): **2.84 billion**

Number of square feet of office space *leased* by the federal government (9/30/04): **343.7 million**

Close to one-fifth of all the owned and leased federal buildings in the U.S. are used for housing (the second-highest category behind “office”).

Source for all data above: "Overview of the United States Government's Owned and Leased Real Property: Federal Real Property Profile as of September 30, 2004," published by the General Services Administration.

http://www.gsa.gov/gsa/cm_attachments/GSA_DOCUMENT/Annual%20Report%20%20FY2004%20Final_R2M-n11_0Z5RDZ-i34K-pR.pdf

NOTE: Direct comparisons with last year's data on federal land ownership cannot necessarily be made, as the General Services Administration is still refining its data-collection procedures each year to improve accuracy.

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